

## NOTICE OF INTENT

### Department of Social Services Office of Rehabilitation Services

Policy Manual Confidentiality and Order of Selection (LAC  
67:VII.101)

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:950 et seq., the Administrative Procedure Act, the Department of Social Services, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services (LRS) is revising its *Policy Manual* Sections: Order of Selection Policy and Confidentiality Policy.

The rule governing Louisiana Rehabilitation Services' order of selection ensures that individuals with the most severe disabilities receive priority for cost rehabilitation services.

The rule governing Louisiana Rehabilitation Services' confidentiality policy provides for the collection and release of personal information.

Because of federal guidelines, this rule must become effective September 1, 1996; therefore, we will submit an emergency rule later to meet the Federal deadline.

The LRS policy manuals are referenced in LAC 67:VII.101 as follows.

#### Title 67 SOCIAL SERVICES

#### Part VII. Rehabilitation Services

#### Chapter 1. General Provisions

#### §101. Vocational Rehabilitation Policy Manual

A. LRS Vocational Rehabilitation Policy Manual provides opportunities for employment outcomes and independence to individuals with disabilities through vocational and other rehabilitation services. Its policy manual guides its functions and governs its actions within the parameters of federal law.

B. Copies of the policy manual can be viewed at Louisiana Rehabilitation Services State Office, 8225 Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA and at each of its nine Louisiana Rehabilitation Services Regional Offices (statewide), or at the Office of the State Register, 1051 North Third Street Suite 512, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 49:664.4 and R.S. 36:477.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Social Services, Rehabilitation Services, LR 17:891 (September 1991), amended LR 20:317 (March 1994), repromulgated LR 21:189 (February 1995), LR 21:191 (February 1995), amended LR 21:473 (May 1995), amended LR 21:837 (August 1995), repromulgated LR 22:

Public hearings will be conducted August 26, 1996, in Shreveport, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans, beginning at 10 a.m. The hearing locations are as follows: Shreveport Regional Office, 1525 Fairfield Avenue; Baton Rouge Regional Office, 2097 Beaumont Drive; and New Orleans Regional Office, 2026 St. Charles Avenue.

Individuals with disabilities who require special services should contact Louisiana Rehabilitation Services at least seven working days prior to the hearing if they wish to attend. For information and assistance call (504) 925-4131 or 1-800-737-2958; or for Voice and TDD, 1-800-543-2099.

Interested persons may submit written comments by

August 20, 1996, to May Nelson, Director, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, at 8225 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806-4834. Ms. Nelson is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding the proposed rule.

The entire Vocational Rehabilitation Policy Manual can be viewed at Louisiana Rehabilitation Services State Office, Florida Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806 and at the Louisiana Rehabilitation Service Regional Offices (statewide) or at the Office of the State Registrar, 1051 North Third Street, Suite 512, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Madlyn B. Bagneris  
Secretary

#### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

#### RULE TITLE: Confidentiality and Order of Selection

#### I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

There is an estimated \$2,460 implementation cost.

#### II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

Louisiana Rehabilitation Services has sufficient funds to provide client services and administer the program as approved by the Louisiana Legislature.

#### III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

There will be no effect on Louisiana Rehabilitation Services clients presently being provided cost services. Effective September 1, 1996, nonseverely disabled individuals requiring either cost or no cost services consisting of counseling and job placement will no longer be served such time as the agency is able to open services to all eligible clients and selection group III.

#### IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

There is no proposed change in competition or employment in the public and private sectors.

May Nelson  
Director  
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Richard W. England  
Assistant to the  
Legislative Fiscal Officer